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May 5, 2008

The Navy Today ... Executing the Maritime Strategy

"This is what the Navy has always done. It's always been about diplomacy and it's always been about helping people. I think the prospect of being able to go down there [Central and South America] and do something focused on helping people just fits Boxer."

-- Capt. Matthew J. McCloskey, Commanding Officer, USS Boxer

Around the world, the Navy is executing the six strategic imperatives of the Maritime Strategy – limiting regional conflict with forward deployed, decisive maritime power, deterring major power war, winning our Nation's wars, contributing to homeland defense in depth, fostering and sustaining cooperative relationships and preventing or containing local disruptions before they impact the global system.

Fostering and sustaining cooperative relationships

- The USS George Washington CSG is currently participating in UNITAS 49, a coalition exercise with Brazil and Argentina, to improve integration and interoperability which leads to greater stability and security in the region. More than 40 Brazilian and almost a dozen Argentine naval personnel of all ranks embarked in USS George Washington 25 Apr – 01 May.
- USS Boxer (LHD 4), with various embarked units and NGOs deployed to Central and South America for Continuing Promise (CP) 2008. Through June, CP 2008 will execute civil-military operations with partner nations including Guatemala, El Salvador and Peru. CP 2008 builds on last year's deployment by USNS Comfort (T-AH 20) with more engineering operations ashore.
- USS Lassen's (DDG 82) visit to Shanghai, China, provided an opportunity to enhance cooperation, foster mutual understanding and further develop lines of communication between our two countries and armed forces. The ship participated in a passing exercise supporting a constructive relationship between the Navy and People's Liberation Army (Navy) through military-to-military engagement.
- USNS Bruce C. Heezen (T-AGS 64) visited Goa, India, during the 8th North Indian Ocean hydrographic commission conference 14-18 April, an opportunity for U.S. Naval oceanographers to familiarize their Indian and regional counterparts with the Naval Oceanography Program and the capabilities of our hydrographic and oceanographic survey vessels.

Working with others to ensure adequate security and maritime domain awareness

- The United States and Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries participated in Eagle Resolve, an annual exercise to enhance regional defense against strategic threats by strengthening GCC planning and response capabilities in active and passive defense, shared early warning, consequence management and medical countermeasures. Eagle Resolve 08 demonstrates our commitment to working with GCC countries in support of regional security and enhanced interoperability by cultivating strong relationships.
- After seven months, the first Africa Partnership Station (APS) concluded. In all, APS visited 19 ports in 10 countries and trained more than 1,500 maritime professionals in small boat handling, port security, martial arts, non-commissioned officer leadership, as well as damage control and maritime law. APS concluded with a Maritime Safety and Security symposium held in Dakar, Senegal, Apr. 9.

Status of the Navy (as of 1 May)

Navy Personnel		Ground Forces in NAVCENT AOR			Sailors at Sea by AOR	
Total Active Component:	332,016	<u>Countries w/ ≥400</u>	<u>AC</u>	<u>RC</u>	NAVCENT/C5F	9,550
Total Reserve Component:	70,249	Iraq	5,707	1,104	PACFLT	29,500
DoN Civilians:	179,355	Bahrain	2,511	128	NAVSO	6,400
<u>Ships, Submarines & Aircraft</u>		Kuwait	1,167	1,005	C2F	20,489
Total deployable ships/subs:	279	Afghanistan	1,468	295	CNE-C6F	1,950
Ships/subs underway:	143 (51%)	Qatar	652	13	Total Sailors deployed Afloat	67,889
Ships forward deployed:	119 (43%)	Djibouti	366	38	For more information on the current status of the Navy, visit www.navy.mil	
Total Operational Aircraft:	3,700+	Total on Ground (All countries)	14,962			